

Instructions, I would have voted "No." On roll-call vote No. 923, on Final Passage of the Small Business Investment Expansion Act of 2007, I would have voted "Aye."

**TMA, ABSTINENCE EDUCATION,
AND QI PROGRAMS EXTENSION
ACT OF 2007**

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this bill allows the extension of some important programs, specifically Transitional Medical Assistance and the Medicare Qualifying Individual Program.

But it unfortunately ties these necessary provisions to yet another ill-considered extension of the federal abstinence-only program.

Keeping federal abstinence-only programs in the form they've taken for the past ten years is an embarrassment to Congress, an insult to taxpayers and a disservice to the health of American young people.

We all support promoting abstinence as the healthiest choice for young people. But the abstinence-only programs we've been funding are a mistake. They contain serious misinformation and, most importantly, are not effective in improving adolescent health.

In 2004 a report I released looked at federally-funded abstinence-only programs and found that the vast majority of the most popular curricula had significant scientific and medical errors. Kids were being taught that HIV can be spread by tears and sweat, that condoms don't help protect against STDs, and that pregnancy occurs one in every seven times a couple uses condoms.

In 2006, GAO found that HHS still wasn't reviewing the medical accuracy of curricula used in the biggest federal abstinence-only programs. GAO also said there was no reliable evidence that these programs improve participants' health.

In 2007, HHS released the results of an evaluation it had commissioned itself on the effectiveness of federally-funded abstinence-only programs. In this randomized, controlled study—the gold standard of research—the abstinence-only programs had no impact on whether teens had sex. They had no impact on the age of first sex. They had no impact on the number of partners. And they had no impact on rates of pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease.

It's not surprising, in light of all this, that eleven states have decided they'd rather not receive federal abstinence-only money at all.

This program is broken. We've given abstinence-only programs one billion dollars in the past decade. \$500 million of that has been through this program. And that doesn't include the matching money states have put in. And for all that money, all we've been able to show the taxpayers are glaring medical errors and zero impact on adolescent health.

Language passed by the House in August would have required programs to contain medically accurate information; mandated that programs be based on models proven effective in improving adolescent pregnancy, HIV, or sexually transmitted disease rates; and

given states the option of offering more comprehensive health information.

I want to be clear. I do not think we should fund any abstinence-only programs. I don't think that we should be funding federal programs that are specifically premised on withholding crucial and age-appropriate health information from young people.

But I am heartened by Chairman DINGELL's statement that he will continue to fight for the House changes, because I believe they will move us closer to a responsible federal position on sex education. I offer Mr. DINGELL my full support in ensuring that federally-funded programs actually improve the health and well-being of American youth.

**IN HONOR OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE HOUSE OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 125th anniversary of The House of the Good Shepherd retirement community in Hackettstown, New Jersey. For over a century, this community has provided seniors with a place to call home.

In 1882, five Episcopal Congregations founded The House with a 20-room rental building in Orange, New Jersey, rented for the sum of \$400. Less than a decade later, they had outgrown that building and a new home was built in Orange housing three dozen women. In the 1960s, they expanded their offering to 175 residences on a wooded, 15-acre site in Hackettstown. The Musconetcong River and Stephens State Park offer a serene and quiet atmosphere. And, the excellent staff offer a loving and friendly environment for the seniors who live there.

The House of the Good Shepherd is equipped to offer its residents a variety of care options from independent apartments to assisted living suites to skilled nursing residences. It is an active community where seniors to go live their golden years to the fullest.

This year's anniversary is somewhat bittersweet for the residents of this community as their Executive Director of more than ten years has announced his retirement. Fred Heleine has ministered to and served the needs of these seniors admirably and with love and compassion since 1995, and as he said in announcing his retirement to his extended family of The House of the Good Shepherd, "I leave The House with much gratitude for the privilege of having been there." I know that the gratitude is mutual, and I join the community in thanking Fred for his fine service.

This Sunday, at a gala celebration fitting of such a momentous milestone, the residents and staff of The House of the Good Shepherd will be joined by members of the extended community. To mark this special anniversary, they will present their first annual "Distinguished Friend of The House" award to Claudia Conway, a longtime resident of Hackettstown and supporter of The House.

Ms. Conway's service has been remarkable, particularly her participation on the Foundation Advisory Council, and she was a natural

choice for this first award. But her dedication to The House not only speaks volumes of her goodness and compassion, but also of the worthiness of her cause. The House of the Good Shepherd is a phenomenal community and I wish it the best for another century of service.

HONORING GOLDY LEVI

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Goldy Levi, on his eightieth birthday. Not only is Goldy Levi a wonderful man who is greatly liked, he is an upstanding citizen and a pillar of the Dallas community. He is a true Texan who has achieved an extraordinary milestone this year.

Longevity is a cause for celebration, especially when it has been accomplished with such great ease. Goldy Levi has been a long time Dallas resident and I am honored to be blessed with his friendship. It is a true pleasure for me to be able to celebrate this milestone with him today.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MASTER WAN
KO YEE**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Master Artist Wan Ko Yee, a distinguished scholar who resides in the 9th District of California. His areas of expertise include literature, painting, sculpting, calligraphy, music, martial arts, and traditional medicine. As a professor at Auburn University, Master Yee is a well renowned author, researcher, and philosopher. He has created exceptional work exhibited throughout the world. His work reflects Buddhist themes and the ideas of tolerance and peace between nations. He is recognized as a pioneer in creating multi-colored sculptures.

In 2003, the United States Congress displayed selected work from Master Yee during an art exhibition held in the Gold Room in the House Office Building. He has been recognized by the Royal Academy of Arts of the United Kingdom, and the Organization of American States.

I commend Master Wan Ko Yee's artistic contributions and his efforts to promote peace through the arts and cultural exchange.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN McCUE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative MIKE THOMPSON of California in honor of John McCue, who is retiring as CEO of the non-